
NEWS RELEASE

Citizens can help the environment – and alleviate flash-flooding by proper leaf disposal

Fort Smith, Arkansas, November 14, 2008: As the fall winds blow leaves from their trees, it's a common sight to see citizens tending to piles of leaves in their yards. It's important to all Fort Smith residents that leaves aren't simply swept or blown into streets.

Ultimately, the debris makes its way into ditches or creeks and creates serious problems. This can clog storm water inlets and drainage ways and result in flooding for other property owners and be bad for creeks and rivers where the leaves eventually reach. Be a good citizen and neighbor and bag or mulch your leaves. Don't "leave the leaves" for someone else to take care of.

Things not to do –

- Blow, sweep or place your leaves in the street, ditches, creeks, drainage inlets or easements
- Burn your leaves

Things to do –

- Bag your leaves.
- Mulch your leaves and place in flower beds or gardens
- Use your leaves to make your own compost
- Remove and bag the leaves from curbs and/or ditches adjacent to your yard

Note that the City of Fort Smith Department of Sanitation and Altes Sanitation collect yard waste part of standard service. Yard waste is processed at the City of Fort Smith Department of Sanitation's composting facility and the compost generated is offered for sale to customers.

Please think green. Be considerate of your neighbors – and the environment.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE